

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

2F
4pl.
6. 2

Foreign

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
★ SEP 30 1958 ★
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROPS AND MARKETS

World Summaries CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

SEPTEMBER 25, 1958

CONTENTS

PRODUCTION	Page
1958-59 Coffee Crop Estimate Increased	6
European Apple and Pear Production Recovers	13
Record 1958 World Breadgrain Crop Forecast	16
STOCKS	
July 1 Grain Stocks Near Record	10
TRADE	
World Exports of Fats and Oils Down in 1958	2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Washington 25, D.C.

WORLD EXPORTS OF FATS AND OILS DOWN IN 1958

World exports in 1958 of fats, oils, and oilseeds are expected to be smaller than in either of the 2 previous years. Reflecting a decline of 4 percent from both 1956 and 1957, the export forecast of 7.8 million short tons oil equivalent is nearly one-fourth greater than both the 1950-54 and prewar averages.

While edible vegetable oils exports in 1958 are expected to increase from last year, export of each of the other 4 groups of oils or fats is expected to decline.

The 4 percent increase in exports of edible vegetable oils expected this year reflects, in the main, a greater volume of soybeans-and-oil from the United States; more peanuts-and-oil from West Africa, and a relatively large expansion of sunflower oil shipments from Argentina compared with 1957. Partially-offsetting factors are the reduced exports foreseen for cottonseed oil, occasioned by the smaller cottonseed crop in the United States in 1957; the expected decline in sesame oil shipments, reflecting reduced supplies from Sudan; and the reduction in the movement of olive oil resulting chiefly from smaller net exports from Spain, and reduced exports from Morocco and Algeria which will more than offset increased shipments from Greece.

The 8-percent decline foreseen in exports of the palm oils group reflects a significant downturn in the exports of coconut oil, stemming largely from the rather severe drought in the Philippines late in 1957. Only slight increases are expected in palm kernel oil and palm oil exports.

The 14-percent estimated drop in exports of industrial oils mirrors chiefly sharply-reduced supplies of linseed oil from the United States and Canada and a curtailment in the supplies of castor oil from India where the crop in 1958 was down markedly from a year earlier.

The probable cutback in the movement of animal fats this year is largely a manifestation of reduced supplies of lard and tallow and greases from the United States. The continued generous supplies of New Zealand butter and increased shipments from France and the Netherlands presage a slight increase from last year in world exports.

Exports of the marine oils will fall short of last year's volume chiefly because of Norway's poor herring catch earlier this year. The expected trade in whale oil, which continues fairly constant from year to year, reflects largely the restrictions on the Antarctic pelagic catch imposed by the International Whaling Agreement. An increase in the exports of sperm oil is likely because of the increased sperm whaling in the Antarctic prior to the regular 1957-58 whaling season.

World production of fats, oils, and oilseeds in 1958 is tentatively estimated at 30.2 million short tons oil equivalent, a decline of one percent from last year's estimated outturn. This follows 4 successive years of increases.

The highlight of the production picture is an alltime record volume of edible vegetable oils. This is attributable in large measure to record world crops of peanuts in 1957--reflecting principally the record production in both India and West Africa; record world crops of soybeans, accounted for largely by the record crop of 1957 in the United States; and, finally, to a probable near-record outturn this year of rapeseed, whose oil becomes available for consumption mostly in the year the seed is harvested.

Production in each of the other fat-or-oil groups this year is below last year. Worthy of note are the reductions from 1957 in the palm oils group--brought about by reduced outturn of copra--and the industrial oils, occasioned by a relatively sharp downturn in flaxseed production, mainly in the United States and Canada. The moderate decline in production of animal fats this year stems from reduction in the output of lard and tallow and greases which more than offset the gain in production of butter. Marine oils production this year is but slightly less than in 1957. The sharp decline in Norway's production of fish oil should be offset partially by increases in the United States and Iceland. And the larger outturn of sperm oil resulted mainly from a more fruitful sperm-whale catch in Southern Hemisphere waters.

* * * *

Outlook for production in 1959: Early indications are that the outturn of fats and oils will be high again next year.

Edible oils output seems likely to increase, owing chiefly to expected increases in the 1958 crops of cottonseed, soybeans, and olives. Peanut oil production in 1959 may be lower than the record level of this year, chiefly because prolonged dry weather is reducing the 1958 peanut crop in certain areas of West Africa. Increased production of the palm oils is expected to come about from a boost in the outturn of Philippine coconuts, with no substantial changes in palm and palm kernel oils. Industrial oils output appears destined to rise because of increases in 1958 flaxseed production in both the United States and Canada, though much will depend on Argentina's crop whose harvest begins late this year. While the castor bean crop in India, to be harvested early in 1959, is expected to recover from the abnormally low outturn this year, it is difficult to appraise the possible effect of drought on next year's castor crop in northeastern Brazil. Tung oil production seems likely to be down slightly as a result of sharp reductions of output in Argentina which more than offset the expected rise in U.S. output.

Animal fats production in 1959 will increase, with gains for butter, lard, and tallow and greases. It is too early to appraise the prospects for the marine oils but production of fish oils probably will recover somewhat from 1958.

Table 1.--FATS, OILS, AND OILSEEDS (FAT OR OIL EQUIVALENT): World exports ^{1/}, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1952-57 and forecast 1958

Commodity	Average		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Forecast
	1935-39:1950-54								1958
Edible vegetable oils:	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
	187	187	122	155	400	396	417	310	240
	Cottonseed.....								
	842	626	525	638	745	885	895	805	900
	Peanut.....								
	435	404	334	383	435	644	920	1,021	1,075
	Soybean.....								
	36	108	75	80	56	44	38	31	65
Palm oils:	65	72	78	105	37	45	68	98	100
	Rapeseed.....								
	78	59	53	96	44	52	61	64	45
	Sesame.....								
	101	59	46	60	63	62	47	60	50
	Olive ^{2/}								
	1,744	1,515	1,233	1,517	1,780	2,128	2,446	2,389	2,475
	Total.....								
	1,187	1,250	1,255	1,122	1,235	1,310	1,509	1,475	1,240
	Coconut.....								
Industrial oils:	360	390	390	415	440	430	440	415	430
	Palm kernel.....								
	539	573	568	604	632	594	615	596	610
	Palm.....								
	20	9	3/	3/	3/	5	3/	3	3
	Babassu kernel.....								
	2,106	2,222	2,213	2,141	2,307	2,339	2,564	2,489	2,283
	Total.....								
	700	447	225	335	695	519	417	591	500
	Linseed.....								
Animal fats:	102	132	131	136	117	147	120	151	125
	Castor.....								
	4	8	6	6	6	10	10	8	10
	Oiticica.....								
	4/ 89	54	47	50	51	48	52	54	60
	Tung.....								
	40	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
	Perilla.....								
	935	641	409	527	869	724	599	804	695
	Total.....								
Marine oils:	5/ 460	395	365	390	400	500	420	445	455
	Butter (fat content).....								
	180	325	360	275	292	345	377	342	312
	Lard.....								
	245	570	520	780	755	850	1,010	975	900
	Tallow and greases.....								
	885	1,290	1,245	1,445	1,447	1,695	1,807	1,762	1,667
	Total.....								
	545	439	460	420	455	420	425	440	430
	Whale.....								
Grand total:	30	78	85	55	75	100	125	100	115
	Sperm whale.....								
	135	177	134	195	215	205	210	185	150
	Fish (including liver).....								
	710	694	679	670	745	725	760	725	695
	Total.....								
	6,380	6,362	5,779	6,300	7,148	7,611	8,176	8,169	7,815
	Grand total.....								

^{1/} Indigenous--that is, exports from producing countries. ^{2/} Net exports. ^{3/} Less than 500 tons. ^{4/} 1933-37 average. ^{5/} 1934-38 average.

Compiled from official and unofficial sources.

Table 2.--FATS, OILS, AND OILSEEDS (FAT AND OIL EQUIVALENT): Estimated world production, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1952-58 1/

Commodity	Average									
	1935-39: 1950-54:									
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Edible vegetable oils 3/:										
Cottonseed.....	1,355	1,660	1,685	1,815	1,945	1,975	2,045	2,045	1,920	1,910
Peanut.....	1,565	1,775	1,800	1,715	1,890	2,025	2,155	2,155	2,280	2,475
Soybean.....	1,030	2,055	2,060	2,155	2,205	2,595	2,725	2,725	2,980	3,165
Sunflower.....	625	885	930	900	1,005	795	1,235	1,235	1,350	1,180
Rapeseed.....	1,330	1,025	1,130	990	990	1,180	1,080	1,080	1,240	1,315
Sesame.....	715	770	740	770	780	785	630	630	625	605
Olive oil.....	975	1,113	1,525	853	1,283	1,095	810	810	1,158	1,184
Total.....	7,595	9,283	9,870	9,198	10,098	10,450	10,680	11,553	11,834	
Palm oils 4/:										
Coconut.....	2,135	2,085	2,065	1,995	2,165	2,215	2,400	2,375	2,150	
Palm kernels.....	400	440	415	445	470	455	480	440	455	
Palm.....	1,090	1,280	1,240	1,330	1,375	1,350	1,380	1,375	1,395	
Babassu kernels.....	25	37	30	30	38	50	36	42	40	
Total.....	3,650	3,842	3,750	3,800	4,048	4,070	4,296	4,232	4,040	
Industrial oils 3/:										
Linseed.....	1,145	1,110	980	1,020	1,095	1,020	1,100	1,400	1,130	
Castor bean.....	200	225	220	220	210	210	205	235	225	
Oiticica.....	10	10	6	9	6	13	13	17	17	
Tung.....	150	123	128	127	123	107	102	121	124	
Perilla.....	65	5	6	6	5	5	4	4	5	
Total.....	1,570	1,473	1,340	1,382	1,439	1,355	1,424	1,777	1,501	
Animal fats:										
Butter (fat content).....	5/4,190	3,650	3,550	3,765	3,875	3,870	4,050	4,170	4,250	
Lard.....	3,485	3,995	4,200	3,980	4,160	4,310	4,535	4,525	4,425	
Tallow and greases.....	1,615	2,575	2,480	2,785	2,880	2,965	3,205	3,225	3,125	
Total.....	9,290	10,220	10,230	10,530	10,915	11,145	11,790	11,920	11,800	
Marine oils:										
Whale.....	545	440	460	420	455	420	425	440	430	
Sperm whale.....	30	80	85	55	75	100	120	100	115	
Fish (including liver).....	480	465	455	455	515	530	515	455	440	
Total.....	1,055	985	1,000	930	1,045	1,050	1,060	995	985	
Estimated world total.....	23,160	25,803	26,190	25,840	27,545	28,070	29,250	30,477	30,160	

1/ Beginning with 1950 the years shown refer to the years in which the predominant share of the oil was produced.

2/ Preliminary. 3/ Estimates for oil production are based on actual U. S. production and on the assumption that varying quantities of the oilseeds produced in countries other than the United States are crushed for oil.

4/ Estimated on the basis of exports and the limited information available on production and consumption in the various producing areas. 5/ 1934-38 average.

1958-59 COFFEE CROP
ESTIMATE INCREASED

Continued favorable weather in several major coffee producing countries has further increased prospects for the 1958-59 crop and exportable production is now estimated at 51.0 million bags. This compares with the first estimate in June of 50.0 million and last year's crop of 44.4 million bags. Total production for 1958-59 is now estimated at 58.7 million bags compared with 52.5 million last year.

North American total production is now expected to be 8.5 million bags for 1958-59, with an exportable production of 6.6 million bags.

Weather has been favorable for the coming crop in Costa Rica. Probabilities are for a little larger production than last year. The harvesting season started in August in the Atlantic Coast region of Costa Rica (Turrialba and San Carlos) and in San Isidro del General, a Pacific Coast region. San Carlos and San Isidro del General are new producing areas.

The 1958-59 coffee crop in Cuba is reported to exceed the 1957-58 crop. The major coffee producing area of Cuba is in the Sierra Maestra mountain region of Oriente Province where rebel forces are most active. Indications, however, are that Cuba will strive to strengthen its position as a coffee-exporting country.

The 1958-59 coffee crop in the Dominican Republic is estimated at 550,000 bags, with an exportable production of 425,000 bags. Total production for the 1957-58 season amounted to approximately 650,000 bags. El Salvador's crop for 1958-59 is expected to exceed the 1957-58 crop by 200,000 bags, and is estimated at 1.5 million bags.

Guatemala may have a somewhat smaller crop in 1958-59 than the record production of 1957-58. The reduction from last season is attributed to somewhat less favorable weather and the fact that some farmers are using less fertilizer this year.

Mexico's 1958-59 total coffee production is estimated at 1.7 million bags. The 1957-58 total crop is now placed at 1.8 million bags. The larger 1957-58 crop is attributed to increased use of fertilizers and to the number of new trees coming into production. Strong winds in the Soconusco district of Chiapas during June are said to have caused some damage to the crop in that area.

South America's 1958-59 coffee crop is now estimated at 38.0 million bags, with an exportable production estimated at 33.7 million bags. This compares to a total of 32.8 million bags in 1957-58 with an exportable crop of 28.0 million bags.

Brazil's exportable coffee production for 1958-59 is now estimated at 26.0 million bags compared with 20.5 million for 1957-58. Weather conditions have generally been favorable in Brazil recently. The large producing states of Sao Paulo and Parana had gentle rains during the middle of July, and there have been no reports of frosts. Heavy rains in the Minas Gerais and Espirito Santo caused some damage to the crop being harvested during the last week of July, but apparently helped the trees.

Colombia's coffee production is estimated at 7.3 million bags for 1958-59, slightly higher than the 7.2 million bags estimated for 1957-58. Conditions in Antioquia are reported as good, and farmers in Caldas are expecting a much larger crop for the coming season. Coffee plantations in Cauca are relatively free from diseases and insects, and if the weather continues favorable a good harvest is likely.

Slight increases are expected for the 1958-59 production over the 1957-58 crop for both Ecuador and Venezuela.

African production for 1958-59 is now estimated at 9.6 million bags, with exportable estimated at 9.1 million bags. If this exportable production is reached it would be an increase of 12 percent over the 1957-58 crop.

The coffee areas of Angola, in which rainfall is normally sparse, have had good precipitation and an increased yield is expected in 1958-59 over 1957-58. Production of coffee in the Belgian Congo for 1958-59 is estimated at a record with practically all of the increase being of the robusta type. Coffee production and acreage in the Cameroun have been increasing rapidly in recent years, and continued increases are likely in 1958-59.

The 1958-59 coffee crop for French West Africa is now estimated at 2.2 million bags. Extremely dry weather in the Ivory Coast has reportedly decreased crop expectations. Damage from this drought can be better determined by late October.

A slight increase in production is predicted during 1958-59 for Kenya, while production in Uganda will be larger than the drought-decreased crop of 1957-58. The trees in Madagascar are reported in good condition for the coming crop.

Total coffee production for Asia and Oceania is estimated at 2.6 million bags; the same as for 1957-58. India is expected to have a crop of 700,000 bags in 1958-59, and Indonesia a 1.5-million-bag crop. Estate production of Indonesian coffee for the first 5 months of 1958 was 13,633 bags compared to 43,300 bags in the similar period of 1957. Increased native production in Indonesia, however, is expected to offset decreases in estate production.

GREEN COFFEE: World total production for the marketing year 1958-59 with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	Average 1935/36- 1939/40	Average 1946/47- 1950/51	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	2nd estimate 1958-59
	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/
North America:							
Costa Rica	390	371	564	421	600	750	825
Cuba	425	564	642	906	610	725	800
Dominican Republic	347	348	485	610	475	650	550
El Salvador	1,091	1,203	1,335	1,250	1,500	1,300	1,500
Guatemala	1,002	1,044	1,080	1,117	1,300	1,300	1,200
Haiti	538	617	528	735	465	700	650
Honduras	57	131	260	287	325	350	350
Mexico	959	1,004	1,600	1,440	1,600	1,800	1,700
Nicaragua	280	277	443	405	375	425	400
Other North America 3/.....	251	311	552	652	500	575	550
Total North America	5,340	5,870	7,489	7,823	7,750	8,575	8,525
South America:							
Brazil	25,340	18,704	18,100	23,500	18,000	24,000	29,000
Colombia	4,452	5,840	6,405	6,800	6,400	7,200	7,300
Ecuador	254	270	437	375	535	500	550
Peru	80	93	190	180	250	275	275
Venezuela	940	698	820	650	800	750	800
Other South America 4/.....	83	49	70	70	55	55	55
Total South America	31,149	25,654	26,022	31,575	26,040	32,780	37,980
Africa:							
Angola	300	816	962	1,316	1,350	1,250	1,350
Belgian Congo	320	538	750	885	950	1,115	1,250
Cameroun	52	121	227	291	300	365	425
Ethiopia	345	343	762	900	865	800	875
French West Africa	250	940	1,745	1,975	1,935	1,885	2,200
Kenya	297	156	238	467	365	375	400
Madagascar	537	503	636	910	950	950	900
Tanganyika	263	240	325	343	300	360	360
Togo	6	33	66	101	114	100	100
Uganda	225	494	1,180	1,300	1,350	1,100	1,400
Other Africa 5/.....	7	201	221	261	300	300	300
Total Africa	2,602	4,385	7,112	8,749	8,775	8,600	9,560
Asia & Oceania:							
India	278	323	418	566	685	700	700
Indonesia	1,961	485	744	1,190	1,550	1,500	1,500
Yemen	80	99	70	85	90	90	90
Other Asia & Oceania 6/.....	176	94	333	360	300	300	300
Total Asia & Oceania	2,495	1,001	1,565	2,201	2,625	2,590	2,590
Total world production	41,586	36,910	42,188	50,348	45,190	52,545	58,655

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. 2/ 132.276 pounds each. 3/ Includes Hawaii, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago. 4/ Includes Bolivia, British Guiana, Paraguay, and Surinam. 5/ Exportable production only. Includes Cape Verde, Ghana, French Equatorial Africa, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierre Leone, and Spanish Guinea. 6/ Includes New Caledonia, New Hebrides, North Borneo, Philippines, Portuguese Timor, and Vietnam.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and other information.

GREEN COFFEE: World exportable production for the marketing year 1958-59, with comparisons 1/

	Average 1946/47- 1950/51	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	2nd estimate 1958-59
	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/
North America:						
Costa Rica	316	508	364	587	685	760
Cuba	(-112)	33	3/ 317	3/ 208	250	300
Dominican Republic	236	394	520	300	525	425
El Salvador	1,108	1,190	1,105	1,400	1,200	1,400
Guatemala	834	892	917	1,050	1,050	950
Haiti	421	328	535	290	550	500
Honduras	75	200	227	240	265	265
Mexico	685	1,400	1,240	1,315	1,500	1,400
Nicaragua	214	388	350	340	380	365
Other North America 4/.....	31	104	204	100	175	250
Total North America	3,920	5,437	5,779	5,830	6,580	6,615
South America:						
Brazil	14,380	14,200	21,300	11,700	20,500	26,000
Colombia	5,200	5,665	6,100	5,600	6,400	6,500
Ecuador	245	397	326	495	450	500
Peru	14	110	130	140	185	185
Venezuela	438	557	375	500	450	500
Other South America 5/.....	22	55	55	40	40	60
Total South America	20,299	20,984	28,286	18,475	28,025	33,745
Africa:						
Angola	828	954	1,306	1,340	1,240	1,340
Belgian Congo	522	718	852	915	1,080	1,215
Cameroun	121	227	291	290	355	415
Ethiopia	274	696	833	765	700	775
French West Africa	858	1,660	1,890	1,850	1,800	2,120
Kenya	150	228	457	340	350	375
Madagascar	453	586	884	850	825	775
Tanganyika	234	315	333	290	350	350
Togo	33	66	101	110	100	100
Uganda	488	1,168	1,187	1,280	1,040	1,330
Other Africa 6/.....	201	221	261	300	300	300
Total Africa	4,162	6,839	8,395	8,330	8,140	9,095
Asia & Oceania:						
India	27	3/ 50	3/ 137	3/ 252	195	150
Indonesia	108	444	875	1,350	1,300	1,300
Yemen	89	50	70	75	80	80
Other Asia & Oceania 7/.....	37	108	75	60	60	60
Total Asia & Oceania	261	662	1,157	1,737	1,635	1,590
World exportable production	28,642	33,922	43,617	34,372	44,380	51,045

1/ The coffee marketing season begins during the second half of the calendar year, starting in some countries like Brazil as early as July 1 and in other countries about October 1. Exportable production represents total production minus consumption, except in Brazil where it is based upon "registrations" of current crop coffee minus port consumption and coast wise shipments. 2/ 132,276 pounds each. 3/ Export quotas.

4/ Includes Hawaii, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago. 5/ Includes Bolivia, British Guiana, Paraguay and Surinam. 6/ Includes Cape Verde, Ghana, French Equatorial Africa, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, and Spanish Guinea. 7/ Includes New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Portuguese Timor.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and other information.

JULY 1 GRAIN STOCKS NEAR RECORD

July 1 grain stocks in the 4 principal exporting countries were only slightly below the record total of July 1, 1957, according to preliminary calculations of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Wheat, rye, and oats stocks showed reductions from the high points of a year ago, while corn and barley stocks were at new records. Total stocks, though nominally below the all-time high of a year ago, are a third above the average of 1953-57, a period in which each successive year established a new record.

A total of 134.9 million short tons estimated for the 5 principal grains in the current year shows little change from the record stocks of 135.2 million tons a year ago. Higher stocks than in 1957 are reported for the United States and Argentina, but are offset by smaller stocks in Canada and Australia.

Though reductions from the high 1957 totals are estimated for all grains except corn and barley, the bulk of the reduction is for wheat, with each of the 4 countries reporting smaller stocks than at the beginning of the 1957-58 season. The wheat total of 1,746 million bushels for the current season is 200 million bushels below the total a year ago, but is more than triple the 1945-49 average. Record corn stocks of 2,290 million bushels were about 225 million bushels more than a year earlier. Total feed grain stocks, at 82 million tons, were also at a new record, 6 million tons above the previous year.

Lower wheat stocks reflect small crops harvested in Canada and Australia last season, as well as a sustained high level of exports from North America. Though reduced, wheat stocks are still sharply above any foreseeable import demand and a record world crop in prospect this year brings total supplies for the 1958-59 season to an alltime high. In the United States, the comparatively high carryover added to the record crop harvested this year raises total supplies 25 percent above the large supply a year ago. This is only partially offset by Canada's reduced supply which is down about 14 percent because of reductions in both carryover and production.

Wheat supplies on July 1, 1958 in Australia and Argentina were less than a year earlier. The reduction is marked in Australia, where a very small crop harvested in late 1957 sharply curtailed export availabilities.

Import demand for wheat from Europe now appears likely to be larger than last year, mainly because of substantial losses in both quantity and quality, incident to bad weather at harvest-time. However, this may also be reflected in smaller import requirements for feed grains. Production estimates have been scaled down considerably in a number of countries where the outlook was good before heavy rains held up harvesting. Smaller outturns in parts of the Near East as well as some importing countries of the Far East may also increase import needs.

GRAINS: Estimated stocks in principal exporting countries, July 1, 1945-1958

Country and year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats 1/	Corn	Total
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	1,000 short tons
<u>United States</u>						
Average 1945-49	193	6	72	254	742	32,526
1950	425	10	80	208	1,380	56,918
1951	400	5	94	286	1,257	54,168
1952	256	4	73	277	972	41,192
1953	606	6	51	249	1,264	58,948
1954	934	15	71	227	1,407	73,172
1955	1,036	16	131	303	1,601	84,348
1956	1,033	17	117	347	1,742	88,602
1957	908	7	127	240	1,968	89,428
1958 2/	881	10	169	326	2,090	94,502
<u>Canada</u>						
Average 1945-49	157	4	41	100	3/	7,506
1950	140	7	30	70	3/	6,306
1951	235	6	65	130	3/	10,988
1952	280	10	95	140	3/	13,340
1953	425	18	130	175	3/	19,349
1954	615	23	160	155	3/	25,569
1955	530	21	105	100	3/	20,708
1956	620	19	130	150	3/	24,802
1957	765	15	160	260	3/	31,630
1958 2/	650	12	140	190	3/	26,426
<u>Argentina</u>						
Average 1945-49	134	11	26	40	187	10,828
1950	100	8	12	40	35	5,132
1951	85	15	25	35	90	6,650
1952	35	5	15	25	70	3,910
1953	160	42	35	60	115	10,996
1954	155	11	20	37	145	10,090
1955	165	10	25	25	85	8,610
1956	130	25	30	35	125	9,380
1957	160	25	30	50	95	9,680
1958 2/	145	15	20	30	200	11,330
<u>Australia</u>						
Average 1945-49	75	3/	6	13	3/	2,602
1950	120	3/	7	12	3/	3,960
1951	100	3/	8	10	3/	3,352
1952	80	3/	7	10	3/	2,728
1953	95	3/	12	25	3/	3,538
1954	155	3/	11	40	3/	5,554
1955	160	3/	6	32	3/	5,456
1956	183	3/	14	50	3/	6,626
1957	115	3/	20	32	3/	4,442
1958 2/	70	3/	14	12	3/	2,628
<u>Total</u>						
Average 1945-49	559	21	145	407	929	53,462
1950	785	25	129	330	1,415	72,316
1951	820	26	192	461	1,347	75,158
1952	651	19	190	452	1,042	61,170
1953	1,286	66	228	509	1,379	92,831
1954	1,859	49	262	459	1,552	114,385
1955	1,891	47	267	460	1,686	119,122
1956	1,966	61	291	582	1,867	129,410
1957	1,948	47	337	582	2,063	135,180
1958	1,746	37	343	558	2,290	134,886

1/ Canadian oats in bushels of 34 pounds; data for other countries in bushels of 32 pounds.
 2/ Preliminary estimates. 3/ Production small and remaining stocks believed negligible.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and related information.

Some lessening of competition for import markets is indicated by reduced crops in France, Syria, and Iraq, where sizable surpluses were held last season. A bumper wheat crop is reported for the Soviet Union this year, which will give that country additional supplies for export.

Grain stocks in the 2 Southern Hemisphere exporting countries on July 1 are in a different position from those in North America. In Southern Hemisphere countries these are mid-season supplies which must cover all needs to the end of the current crop season and for carryover. Thus, stocks of small grains in Argentina and Australia are for use within the country or for export up to December 1, and corn to April 1, the beginning of the new season. In contrast, July 1 stocks in North America approximate the year-end carryover of small grains. Stocks represent actual carryover into the new season in the United States, while in Canada the marketing season starts August 1. For corn, the U.S. marketing season starts October 1.

A regional breakdown of July 1 stocks shows the United States had 94.5 million short tons of the 5 grains, compared with 89.4 million a year earlier and the 1945-49 average of 32.5 million tons. Increases from 1957 occurred in stocks of all grains except wheat.

In addition to the 5 grains covered, the United States has record stocks of grain sorghums, not included in this tabulation because July 1 estimates are not available prior to 1956 and grain sorghums are of minor importance in the other countries covered in this review. Of growing importance in the United States, sorghum stocks on July 1, 1958 are estimated at 318 million bushels, compared with 99 million in 1957. A record crop this year brings total supplies to about 900 million bushels, about 235 million more than a year ago. Excluding the large sorghum stocks, however, U.S. stocks of the 5 grains considered here were 70 percent of the total in the 4 countries.

Canada's stocks are estimated at 26.4 million short tons, down from 31.6 million on July 1, 1957. Though 16 percent below the record stocks of a year ago, the present level is still sharply above average for all grains. The greatest reduction from last year's stocks is in wheat, with a reduction of 115 million bushels. Canada's total represents about 20 percent of the total stocks at the beginning of July. Smaller grain crops again this year mean that supplies of each of the grains for the current season will be less than for 1957-58.

In Argentina July 1 grain stocks, estimated at 11.3 million short tons, are 17 percent larger than a year earlier. The increase is entirely in corn, that increase more than offsetting substantial reductions in other grains. The corn harvest beginning in March 1958 was the largest since 1948 and stocks are above the 1945-49 average. As pointed out above, these stocks are for domestic consumption and export for 9 months, until the new harvest starts, whereas U.S. corn stocks are only 3 months removed from the next harvest.

Grain stocks in Australia are at the lowest point of recent years because of poor harvests last year. A total of 2.6 million short tons compares with 4.4 million in July 1957 and the high of 6.6 million in July 1956. Wheat crops of the past 2 years have been sharply below average and estimated stocks of 70 million bushels on July 1, 1958 are only about half the average of the past 5 years.

EUROPEAN APPLE AND PEAR PRODUCTION RECOVERS

Weather conditions have been favorable for apples and pears in most European and North American producing areas in 1958. Production in the Northern Hemisphere is sharply above last year as European areas recovered from the extremely short crops of 1957. In 1957, most northern European apple and pear producing countries suffered from bad weather. In some countries losses were very heavy with crops in most of Europe totaling about 50 percent of their 1956 levels.

Weather has been generally favorable in Europe this year and excellent crops are expected in most countries. Total European production of both apples and pears in 1958 is now expected to be almost double 1957 levels and somewhat above 1956.

Apples

All European apple-producing countries are reporting sharp increases over last year except in Scandinavia, where production is up just slightly, and in Greece where it is at about the same level as last year. Also all continental Europe, except Italy, is producing more than in 1956 which was a good crop year.

North American production is up about 5 percent as a result of increased harvests in the United States. Canada's apple crop is expected to be slightly below last year.

Total dessert and cooking apple production in Europe and North America is estimated at 447 million bushels 55 percent above 1957 production of 288 million bushels and almost 10 percent higher than the 408 million bushels produced in 1956.

Pears

European pear crop prospects for 1958 parallel those of apples. Crops are expected to be higher than those of 1956 in all countries except Scandinavia.

The Canadian pear crop is up slightly from last year, but production in the United States is down about 3 million bushels, sufficient to cause a drop of 10 percent in total North American production. Dessert and cooking pear production in Europe and North America will total about 118 million bushels, up 49 percent from the 79 million bushels in 1957 and 9 percent above 1956's 108 million bushel crop.

APPLES: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54,
annual 1955-58

Continent and Country	Averages		1955	1956	1957	1958 ^{1/}
	1935-39	1950-54				
	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>
Dessert and Cooking						
North America:						
Canada	14,560	13,613	19,142	12,424	16,095	15,600
Mexico	1,231	2,441	2,681	2,710	2,434	2,600
United States	127,311	107,479	107,157	100,852	118,548	126,800
Total	143,102	123,533	128,980	115,986	137,077	145,000
Europe:						
Austria	7,095	8,675	12,093	15,538	4,590	16,000
Belgium-Luxembourg ..	5,721	14,032	10,219	9,438	7,096 ^{2/}	12,600
Denmark	2,818	9,884	6,889	9,544	8,772	9,000
France	10,499	19,695	20,080	23,885	7,740	24,000
Germany, West	36,116	64,274	35,800	72,500	18,700	79,000
Greece	374	1,835	1,672	3,317	4,105	4,100
Italy	12,923	36,834	55,707	65,087	44,624	62,900
Netherlands	3,631	15,517	9,646	15,065	6,476	15,200
Norway	1,080	2,303	2,017	3,059	2,062	2,500
Spain	5,411	7,040	8,759	7,808	7,716	7,800
Sweden	4,770	7,661	5,466	12,989	7,624	10,200
Switzerland	16,452	22,138	12,860	21,587	5,052	21,900
United Kingdom	10,597	24,479	18,676	26,003	21,761	28,600
Yugoslavia	7,098	6,631	11,436	6,430	4,868	8,300
Total	124,585	240,998	211,320	292,250	151,186	302,100
Total specified countries						
Dessert and Cooking ^{3/} ..	267,687	364,531	340,300	408,236	288,263	447,100
Cider						
Austria	6,291	4,391	4,315	6,760	1,378	6,500
France	153,973	160,995	145,351	142,172	35,549	170,000
Spain	^{4/} 2,508	2,519	4,083	3,674	3,582	3,600
United Kingdom	3,427	3,886	1,773	3,234	3,052	3,200
Total	166,199	171,791	155,522	155,840	43,561	183,300

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Belgium only.

^{3/} May include some cider apples in countries not reported separately.

^{4/} 1935 only.

PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54,
annual 1955-58

Continent and Country	Average		1955	1956	1957	1958 ^{1/}
	1935-39	1950-54				
	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>bushels</u>
Dessert and Cooking						
North America:						
Canada	569	1,217	1,510	1,400	1,094	1,300
Mexico	331	719	677	750	573	600
United States	28,693	28,881	29,622	32,322	31,676	29,600
Total	29,593	30,817	31,809	34,472	33,343	31,500
Europe:						
Austria	950	1,588	2,032	1,756	1,219	2,000
Belgium-Luxembourg ...	2,126	8,576	8,824	6,177	1,765 ^{2/}	6,200
Denmark	480	956	529	926	600	400
France	1,760	6,559	8,303	7,612	5,412	8,400
Germany, West	11,891	19,474	15,700	14,100	5,200	21,200
Greece	878	1,446	1,273	1,875	1,940	1,500
Italy	8,482	16,155	19,364	19,406	15,899	19,800
Netherlands	1,570	6,056	4,189	4,806	1,455	5,800
Norway	174	298	398	295	295	300
Spain	3,057	3,303	3,448	3,527	3,748	3,600
Sweden	1,063	1,614	750	2,659	1,102	2,000
Switzerland	7,037	11,640	13,669	5,732	2,646	10,000
United Kingdom	782	1,512	2,236	2,733	1,926	2,900
Yugoslavia	2,773	3,134	2,469	1,764	2,645	2,200
Total	43,023	82,311	83,184	73,368	45,852	86,300
Total specified countries						
Dessert and Cooking ^{3/} ..	72,616	113,128	114,993	107,840	79,195	117,800
Cider						
Austria	5,416	6,064	6,248	8,084	1,764	8,000
France	21,776	25,161	22,715	22,219	5,556	26,500
United Kingdom	237	186	112	246	121	200
Total	27,429	31,411	29,075	30,549	7,441	34,700

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Belgium only.

^{3/} May include some cider pears in countries not reported separately.

RECORD 1958 WORLD BREADGRAIN CROP FORECAST

World breadgrain production is at an alltime high in 1958, according to preliminary estimates of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Wheat and rye together are estimated at 288.5 million short tons, compared with the previous record of 273 million in 1956. The current estimate is 7 percent above the large harvest last year and 15 percent above the 1950-54 average.

World forecasts this early in the season are necessarily tentative since seeding in Southern Hemisphere countries has only recently been completed and growing conditions between now and December 1 will play a large part in determining the outturn in those areas. Reliable information is also lacking for some countries of the Northern Hemisphere.

The sharp increase in the 1958 crop is all in wheat, with rye production slightly less than last year and also below average. Wheat production is forecast at 8.3 billion bushels or about 500 million bushels above the previous record in 1956. The bulk of that increase is in the United States; the latest estimate of the record harvest for this country is 500 million bushels above last year's crop and about 400 million more than in 1956. The Soviet Union and Mainland China also report record wheat crops. Record crops in those 3 leading wheat producers, much more than offset reductions in some other areas. The 3 leading producers account for more than half the world total.

Total wheat production in North America this year is estimated at 1,828 million bushels, a third above the small crop last year. The increase is in the United States, where the alltime high of 1,446 million bushels was some 50 percent larger than the 1957 crop and 30 percent above the 1947-56 average. Winter wheat, at 1,171 million bushels, is a record crop and spring wheat of 276 million is above average. The spring wheat estimate includes 21 million bushels of durum, about half the 1957 durum production and about a third less than average.

Wheat yields far surpassed any previous records. The average for all wheat is estimated at 27 bushels per harvested acre, compared with the previous high of 21.7 bushels last year and a 1947-56 average of 17.7 bushels. Acreage was 10 million acres above the small 1957 acreage but 10 million below the average of the previous 10 years.

Both Canada and Mexico have smaller crops than last year. Canada's wheat production is estimated at 339 million bushels, only about half the record production in 1952. This is the second successive small crop for Canada, resulting mainly from dryness during the growing season. Yields are estimated at 16.2 bushels per acre compared with 25.2 in 1956 and the 1950-54 average of 20.9 bushels per acre. Acreage for the current crop is placed at 20.9 million acres, well below average. Mexico's production is reported at 42.3 million bushels, about 8 percent below the large crop last year.

Rye production in North America is estimated at 42 million bushels, slightly larger than in 1957 because of an increase in the U.S. crop. Production in this country is 34 million and in Canada 8 million.

Wheat production in Western Europe was expected to approximate the large 1957 crop, but very wet harvest weather has reduced estimates, and present estimates total 1,290 million bushels. Though less than the 1,368 million estimated for last year, this is still well above average. Crops are less than in 1957 in a number of countries but the largest reduction is for France. That country's production is now estimated to be about 23 percent less than the record 1957 production and there are indications that France may be on an import basis this year in contrast with the 1957-58 season when exports amounted to about 85 million bushels.

Eastern Europe's wheat crop is estimated at 495 million bushels, about 15 percent less than the large production a year ago. The reduction is especially marked in Yugoslavia, where production is down 23 percent despite an acreage increase.

Rye is an important crop in this area, and the current outturn is estimated at 430 million bushels, compared with about 450 million last year. Comparatively good crop conditions in Poland were important in holding rye within 5 percent of the high 1957 level. Poland is the world's largest rye producer outside the Soviet Union and the current estimate of 282 million bushels for that country is 65 percent of the total for Eastern Europe and exceeds Western Europe's total of 265 million bushels.

Growing conditions were exceptionally good in the Soviet Union this year and a record wheat crop is reported. In early September much of the crop remained in the fields and harvest losses may be sizable. In areas where harvesting had been completed, deliveries were much above the goals. Rye production is also indicated to be large.

Wheat production in Asia is tentatively estimated at 1,970 million bushels compared with the previous record of 1,915 million last year. A record crop for Mainland China is the principal factor in the increase. Most other countries of Asia report smaller crops than last year. Rye production in Turkey is about a third less than the large crop a year ago. This is the only country of any importance in rye production.

Africa's total wheat production is estimated at 195 million bushels. This is 10 percent above the 1957 crop. The principal increase over last year is in Morocco, with a crop of 36 million bushels, compared with the small crop of 23 million a year ago. Tunisia's crop was also moderately above 1957 but slight reductions are reported for Egypt and Algeria. No estimate is yet available for the crop in the Union of South Africa, where harvesting does not begin until November. Rye is of no significance in this area.

WHEAT: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest,
average 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/			Production		
	Average:	1956	1957	Average:	1956	1957	Average:	1956	1957
	1950-54	1956	1957	1950-54	1956	1957	1950-54	1956	1957
North America:									
Canada	26,129:	22,781:	21,031:	20,899:	20.6	17.6	16.2	573,062:	370,508:
Mexico	1,647:	2,315:	2,347:	1,977:	13.2	19.7	21.4	21,788:	45,930:
United States	63,361:	49,784:	43,664:	53,650:	17.3	20.2	21.7	1,094,183:	1,004,272:
Estimated total 5/	91,200:	74,970:	67,140:	76,620:	18.1	21.7	23.9	1,654,000:	1,624,000:
Europe:									
Austria	573:	620:	636:	650:	29.5	33.8	30.1	16,920:	21,090:
Belgium	421:	464:	514:	547:	48.2	47.2	54.8	20,278:	21,920:
Denmark	192:	164:	158:	180:	54.5	59.6	55.6	10,630:	9,770:
Finland	377:	328:	280:	313:	28.2	22.3	25.7	8,739:	7,300:
France	10,916:	7,000:	11,534:	11,390:	28.9	32.1	27.7	315,244:	225,000:
Germany, West	2,728:	2,830:	3,000:	3,200:	40.4	45.1	42.2	110,228:	127,560:
Greece	2,415:	2,622:	2,709:	2,735:	16.6	17.4	23.8	40,042:	45,730:
Ireland	362:	340:	397:	418:	36.0	46.8	41.9	13,036:	15,900:
Italy	12,085:	12,350:	12,375:	12,300:	23.8	25.8	27.6	288,080:	318,980:
Luxembourg	45:	38:	—:	—:	30.7	30.0	—:	1,382:	1,140:
Netherlands	209:	212:	245:	274:	54.4	53.5	56.6	11,376:	11,340:
Norway	56:	51:	35:	35:	30.0	40.2	33.7	1,682:	2,050:
Portugal	1,785:	1,942:	1,973:	2,005:	13.2	10.6	12.5	23,526:	20,500:
Spain	10,470:	10,638:	—:	—:	14.8	14.6	—:	155,000:	155,000:
Sweden	896:	980:	823:	698:	33.1	35.7	35.1	29,640:	34,950:
Switzerland	219:	195:	238:	261:	41.5	36.1	44.3	9,080:	7,030:
United Kingdom	2,263:	2,293:	2,113:	2,205:	41.8	46.3	49.9	94,646:	106,210:
Estimated total West Europe 5/	46,020:	43,080:	47,680:	47,860:	25.0	26.3	27.0	1,150,000:	1,132,000:
Bulgaria	3,540:	3,398:	3,370:	—:	18.6	16.8	—:	66,000:	57,000:
Czechoslovakia	1,840:	1,785:	1,833:	—:	28.5	31.4	—:	52,500:	56,000:
Germany, East	1,120:	940:	1,038:	—:	34.0	38.2	—:	38,100:	35,900:
Hungary	3,400:	3,430:	3,080:	—:	21.3	19.8	—:	72,500:	67,800:
Poland	3,730:	3,620:	3,568:	3,558:	19.0	21.5	23.6	70,800:	78,000:
Rumania	6,710:	7,150:	7,340:	—:	16.2	12.6	—:	108,750:	90,000:
Yugoslavia	—:	4,003:	4,868:	4,942:	—:	16.2	17.8	80,000:	64,670:
Estimated total East Europe 5/	25,420:	24,500:	25,300:	25,280:	19.3	18.5	19.6	490,000:	453,000:
Estimated total Europe 5/	71,440:	67,580:	72,980:	73,140:	23.0	23.5	24.4	1,640,000:	1,585,000:
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/	111,500:	153,000:	170,000:	—:	11.1	13.1	—:	1,240,000:	2,000,000:

RYE: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/			Production		
	Average	1956	1957	Average	1956	1957	Average	1956	1957
	1950-54	1956	1957	1950-54	1956	1957	1950-54	1956	1957
	acres	acres	acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels
North America:									
Canada	1,176	547	551	521	15.7	15.5	15.4	8,584	8,539
United States	1,619	1,623	1,671	1,863	13.0	15.9	18.3	21,558	26,528
Total	2,795	2,170	2,222	2,384	14.5	15.8	17.7	40,142	42,119
Europe:									
Austria	601	528	520	509	32.4	30.3	29.2	15,760	14,850
Belgium	205	169	162	169	43.1	46.2	49.1	8,832	7,480
Denmark	323	269	287	292	42.6	39.8	—	12,332	11,420
Finland	276	219	211	189	24.3	21.5	26.0	6,694	4,535
France	1,104	917	900	879	20.2	21.1	21.6	20,327	18,950
Germany, West	3,454	3,664	3,620	3,679	40.1	41.5	39.9	131,400	147,050
Greece	156	132	113	109	14.3	17.0	17.0	2,136	1,890
Italy	238	180	175	—	31.7	32.0	—	5,160	4,140
Luxembourg	14	11	—	—	32.7	—	—	439	360
Netherlands	428	422	389	357	43.6	45.9	—	18,644	19,360
Norway	2	2	1	1	30.0	50.0	43.0	60	100
Portugal	652	628	606	606	11.1	10.7	13.0	7,227	6,730
Spain	1,526	1,500	—	—	12.7	13.4	—	19,390	20,080
Sweden	312	303	283	228	33.0	34.8	34.3	10,302	10,530
Switzerland	38	32	39	31	40.7	42.8	42.6	1,547	1,370
United Kingdom	59	26	23	23	35.1	36.5	36.9	2,072	1,000
Estimated total West Europe 5/	9,390	9,000	8,850	8,770	28.0	30.3	30.2	263,000	273,000
Bulgaria	530	355	357	—	13.2	17.4	—	8,500	4,700
Czechoslovakia	1,550	1,310	1,282	—	26.5	31.7	—	41,100	41,500
Germany, East	3,110	2,740	2,713	—	26.8	27.9	—	83,500	76,500
Hungary	1,275	1,100	1,040	—	19.4	17.7	—	24,700	19,500
Poland	12,345	12,265	12,511	12,355	19.0	21.2	22.8	235,000	260,000
Rumania	500	425	385	—	16.6	15.6	—	8,300	5,350
Yugoslavia	—	620	633	615	—	17.4	13.4	8,500	11,000
Estimated total East Europe 5/	19,970	18,830	18,930	18,690	22.1	23.8	23.0	410,000	417,000
Estimated total Europe 5/	29,360	27,830	27,780	27,460	22.9	24.8	25.3	673,000	690,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/	54,000	45,500	45,000	—	12.8	13.7	—	690,000	625,000
Asia:									
Turkey	1,410	1,586	1,619	—	16.1	17.0	—	22,700	22,280
South America:									
Argentina	2,222	3,013	2,186	—	11.7	11.5	—	26,000	34,640
Africa:									
Union of South Africa	176	—	—	—	4.8	—	—	845	—
Estimated world total 5/	90,230	80,520	79,220	78,660	16.1	17.4	17.9	1,455,000	1,405,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1958 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest, which will begin late in 1958 and early in 1959. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries, for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Tentative unofficial estimates for production.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of United States Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

It is too early in the season to have reliable information on the size of the crop in the Southern Hemisphere. Preliminary reports on the acreage recently seeded in South America indicate generally good conditions. Dryness had been an unfavorable factor in some areas but heavy rains have since improved prospects for the wheat crop. In Argentina, the principal producer of the area, the acreage seeded to wheat is about the same as last year, according to the first official estimate. Seeded rye acreage has particular significance here since a large part of the acreage is normally used as pasture and only about a third of the seeded acreage is harvested as grain.

Conditions in Australia are much more favorable than at this time last year and a wheat crop of about 180 million bushels is expected. This is about the same as the 1950-54 average and is sharply above the small crops of the past 2 years. Acreage is back to normal and is 40 percent above last year's small acreage. Rye is of little importance in Australia.

- - - - -

The Commodity Summaries in this monthly supplementary issue of Foreign Crops and Markets are part of a series of reports on World Crop and Livestock Production and Trade which are released according to a schedule published at the beginning of each calendar year.

The country data are prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments; reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad; results of office research and other information. The Summaries of Production have been approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Official Business

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300
(PMGC)